

JOSEPH L. MOODY,)
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 Plaintiff,)
)
 VS.) No. 18-1254-JDT-cgc
)
 JOHNNY ALEXANDER, ET AL.,)
)
 Defendants.)

On December 26, 2018, Plaintiff Joseph L. Moody, who is incarcerated at the Hardin County Jail in Savannah, Tennessee, filed a *pro se* complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis*. (ECF Nos. 1 & 2.)

Under the Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA), 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915(a)-(b), a prisoner bringing a civil action must pay the filing fee required by 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a). Although the obligation to pay the fee accrues at the moment the case is filed, *see McGore v. Wrigglesworth*, 114 F.3d 601, 605 (6th Cir. 1997), *partially overruled on other grounds by LaFountain v. Harry*, 716 F.3d 944, 951 (6th Cir. 2013), the PLRA provides the prisoner the opportunity to make a “down payment” of a partial filing fee and pay the remainder in installments. *Id.* § 1915(b)(2). However, in order to take advantage of the installment procedures, the prisoner must properly complete and submit to the district court, along with the complaint, an *in forma pauperis* affidavit containing a current certification by the prison trust account officer and a copy of his trust account statement for the six months immediately preceding the filing of the complaint. *Id.* § 1915(a)(2).

In this case, the affidavit submitted by Plaintiff is not accompanied by a certification by the trust account officer and a copy of his trust account statement. He states in his cover letter, “that the Jail [officials] . . . are telling me they dont [sic] have time to look this up for me or they arent [sic] able to contact the notary [sic] here at Jail and set up a time that is workable for both parties to get together.” (ECF No. 2-1.) Nevertheless, Plaintiff will be required to make additional efforts to obtain the document. Accordingly, Plaintiff is ORDERED to submit, within 30 days after the date of this order, either the entire \$400 civil filing fee¹ or a copy of his trust account statement for the last six months.² If Plaintiff needs additional time to file the required document, he may request one 30-day extension of time from this Court. *McGore*, 114 F.3d at 605.

If Plaintiff timely submits the necessary document and the Court finds that he is indigent, the Court will grant leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* and assess a filing fee of \$350 in accordance with the installment procedures of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b). However, if Plaintiff fails to comply with this order in a timely manner,³ the Court will deny leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*, assess the entire \$400 filing fee from his trust account without regard to the installment payment procedures, and dismiss the action without further notice pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b) for failure to prosecute. *McGore*, 114 F.3d at 605.

¹ The civil filing fee is \$350. 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a). The Schedule of Fees set out following the statute also requires an additional administrative fee of \$50 for filing any civil case. That additional fee will not apply if leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* is ultimately granted.

² Plaintiff does not need to submit another *in forma pauperis* affidavit.

³ Plaintiff will not be penalized for the failure of Jail officials to provide him with the required document. Therefore, if efforts to obtain his trust account statement still are unsuccessful, he should so notify the Court.

If Plaintiff is transferred to a different prison or released, he is ORDERED to notify the Court immediately, in writing, of his change of address. Failure to abide by this requirement may likewise result in the dismissal of this case without further notice, for failure to prosecute.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/ **James D. Todd**
JAMES D. TODD
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE